

## SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD Washington, DC 20423

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis and Administration

February 13, 2007

Kathryn Kusske Floyd, Esq. Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP 1909 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20006

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34658, The Alaska Railroad Corporation – Petition for Exemption to Construct and Operate a Rail Line Between North Pole and Delta Junction, Alaska

Dear Ms. Floyd:

On November 6, 2006, the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) held a meeting with the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and representatives from other Federal and state agencies to present preliminary findings from cultural resources field work surveys. These surveys were conducted to support the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement as well as meet National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 requirements for the above-referenced project. A representative from the Alaska Railroad (Applicant) attended that meeting and requested a copy of the presentation prepared by SEA's third-party contractor team, led by ICF International.

Following the meeting, SEA received verbal approval from Ms. Judith Bittner, the Alaska SHPO, to transfer a copy of the presentation to the Applicant with the explicit understanding that the content of the slides will remain strictly confidential and will not be publicly distributed. Enclosed with this letter is a copy of the November 6, 2006 presentation. SEA asks that the Applicant honor the SHPO's request to handle the material carefully.

If you have any comments or questions about the attached items or the project please do not hesitate to contact Dave Navecky, SEA Project Manager, at (202) 565-1593 or Alan Summerville, Project Manager for ICF International, at (703) 934-3616.

Sincerely,

Victoria Rutson

Chief

Section of Environmental Analysis

Enclosure